

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully traverses and requests reconsideration.

In the “Response to Amendment” section of the office action, the Examiner indicates that claims 1, 16, 25, 39 and 46 would be in condition for allowance if the words “prior to accepting the password” were inserted into the claim instead of the previous added claim language.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as allegedly claiming subject matter not described in the specification since the words “and prior to a transaction being completed” are allegedly not described in the instant specification. Applicant respectfully submits that the specification does support this language in at least that the specification teaches that access to an application or other process cannot be granted until a password is accepted and as such no transaction can be completed unless the password is granted. Moreover, the specification notes that altering of the animated image is done in response to entry of one or more of the entered password characters. This also is performed prior to a transaction being completed since no transaction can be completed without a password being entered. In any event, Applicant has amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner in an effort to expedite prosecution. As such, all the claims are in condition for allowance except claim 47. Applicant also respectfully submits that the dependent claims add additional novel and non-obvious subject matter.

As to claim 47, this claim is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,209,104 (Jalili) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,061,659 (Murray). The Jalili reference is directed to a secure data entry and visual authentication system and method that associates icons with data so that a user can select or click on an icon and the icon location information is then sent to a server. The server may then determine which data has been selected, without the system being required to display the actual data that the user selects. In one example, the icon as selected is a set of five bowling pins to represent the number 5. This is

distinctly different from Applicant's claimed invention which is a method for password entry. The office action cites column 3, lines 30-35 of Jalili as allegedly teaching outputting dynamic password entry interface legitimacy information. However, the cited portion states that the icons that are generated include the password or PIN elements. For example, the Jalili reference utilizes the icons as the password characters. As such, selecting the icons themselves is the action of entering password information. The icons are static once they are presented. In contrast, the claim requires dynamic password entry interface legitimacy information. In one example, animated images serve as the dynamic password entry interface legitimacy information as required by the claim. The icons in the cited reference are not dynamic since as Applicant claims the legitimacy information changes in connection with the prompting of entry of the password. As such, the claim is condition for allowance.

Moreover, the office action also alleges that the combination of the teaching of Murray with those of Jalili render the claim obvious. The Murray reference is directed to a system and method for integrating a message into a graphical environment such that a message is included in the content portion to effect improve cognitive processing and recall. Murray is not directed to a password entry method nor password protection method and as such does not appear to be analogous art. Moreover, even for argument sake, combining the teachings of Jalili which require the presentation of icons as the password characters themselves with the teachings of Murray, which teach that embedded messages may be animated icons, would appear to teach that after the password entry system of Jalili is used, during normal operation somehow messages are assimilated with content that may be animated icons. Such a system is not claimed by Applicant. Accordingly, this claim is also believed to be in condition for allowance.

New claim 48 is also believed to be allowable since the references do not teach in combination claim 47 nor the receiving of at least one password character while displaying the dynamic password entry interface legitimacy information at the same time.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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